

12. Hoyt WF, Kaplan SL, Grumbach MM, et al: Septo-optic dysplasia and pituitary dwarfism. *Lancet* 1:893, 1970
13. Lahey ME, Kenny FM, Drash AL: Short stature and growth hormone deficiency due to histiocytosis—X. Abstracts of the Annual Meeting of the Society for Pediatric Research, 1970
14. Steiner MM, Boggs JD: Absence of pituitary gland, hypothyroidism, hypoadrenalism and hypogonadism in a 17-year-old dwarf. *J Clin Endocr* 25:1591, 1965
15. Stocks AE, Martin FIR: Pituitary function in haemochromatosis. *Am J Med* 45:839, 1968
16. Rimoin DL, Merimee TJ, Rabinowitz D, et al: Peripheral subresponsiveness to human growth hormone in the African pygmies. *New Eng J Med* 281:1383, 1969
17. Najjar SS, Khachadurian AK, Ilbawi MN, et al: Dwarfism with elevated levels of plasma growth hormone. *New Eng J Med* 284:809-812, 1971
18. Costom BH, Grumbach MM, Kaplan SL: Effect of thyrotropin-releasing factor (TRF) on serum TSH: An approach to distinguishing hypothalamic from pituitary forms of idiopathic hypopituitary dwarfism. Abstracts of the 41st Annual Meeting of the Society for Pediatric Research, p 12, April, 1971

United or Separate?

THE REAL ISSUE IN THE POLL of the membership which is to be begun September 1 is whether organized medicine in California will remain united or will separate, with many individuals and groups going different ways. There are those who will contend that this is not the case and that all that is at stake is one more expression of opinion in support of voluntarism as against compulsion, this time over the question of whether a physician exercises enough free choice when he joins or does not join his county medical association, knowing that in doing so he also joins the California Medical Association and the American Medical Association, or whether this free choice should now be extended to give him the further option of joining or not joining the CMA and AMA. The question to be posed to the membership—"Do you favor or oppose retaining the present system of unified membership in your county society, CMA and AMA?"—addresses itself to the real question.

These are times of revolutionary change. We have only to look around us to sense the enormity of what is occurring. Many, if not most, of what are generally thought of as the stabilizing elements of a social system are being seriously eroded, if they are not actually crumbling. This is apparent in the law and courts, in the educational system, in respect for the military and the police, and in the authority of the churches, to

cite a few pieces of the evidence. It is no longer possible to oppose or prevent this revolution. We are engulfed in it. Its hallmark so far has been fragmentation of the old order with little to propose for the new. The problems to be resolved are human problems and the needs to be met are human needs. Health and well-being are among the goals which are being sought. Medicine should take part in developing some of the new solutions. The question to be decided is how can medicine best play its role—united, or separate and fragmented?

Do not the issues of "voluntary" and "compulsory" seem somehow beside the point in the face of social revolution and cultural fragmentation? Everyone knows how physicians feel about free choice and compulsion. It has been voted on many times and in many ways. And it is a matter of record that both CMA and AMA have worked for voluntarism and against compulsion for as long as anyone can remember, and quite successfully too. Is this not a time to close ranks and not to scatter, to be united and not to separate? We should all favor retaining the present system of unified membership in county society, CMA and AMA.

Dealing in Futures

Part II—In Democratic Societies

A PREVIOUS EDITORIAL expressed the view that California and the country as a whole were investing in medical research and education as though only for today's market when actually they are dealing in futures—that is, spending money which has to be spent or invested today in order to buy or produce a product which can only be delivered at a later time when presumably it will be needed. The purpose of this editorial is to draw attention to a characteristic of democratic societies, be they institutions, organi-

This is Part II of an editorial to be published in three parts. Part I appeared in the July issue, and Part III will be published in the September issue.